REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

A.   Summary of Interview with Examiner

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner the courtesy to extend to Applicants' representatives a telephonic interview on February 13, 2008. During the telephonic interview, the grounds for rejection of the pending claims over, *inter alia*, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0015467 to Noda ("Noda"), as stated in the Non-Final Office action dated October 9, 2007, were discussed.

During the Examiner Interview, Applicants' representatives discussed the differences between independent Claim 1 and Noda. Applicant's stated that Noda does not teach, disclose, or suggest setting Service Set ID for performing a wireless communication into a detachable wireless LAN adapter. The Applicant's file herein an Amendment and Remarks in furtherance of the Examiner Interview.

B.   Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 4-5, 13, 14, and 17 were pending. By this paper, claims 1, 5, 13, and 17 are amended. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Claims 2, 3, 6-12, 15, and 16 remain canceled.

C.   Rejections under 35 U.S.C § 103(a)

Each of the pending claims was rejected. Claims 1, 4, 5, 13, 14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0015467 to Noda ("Noda") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication

1116025 v1

No. 2003/0009541 to Sato ("Sato") in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,149,805 to Bartolome et al.

[10/9/07 Office Action at pp. 4-19].

1. <u>Claims 1, 4-5, 13-14 and 17 Are Patentably Distinct Over Noda And/Or Bartolome And/Or Sato</u>

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of claims 1, 4-5, 13-14 and 17.

Briefly, the cited references, alone or in combination, fail to teach, disclose, or suggest all of the recited elements of Applicants' claims. In particular, Applicants submit that the cited references fail to disclose the "registration" and "communication" steps recited in Applicants' amended claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn. MPEP § 2143

Applicants' Claim 1 recites, inter alia,

> A communication method for allowing a printing apparatus connected to a wireless LAN adapter having a wireless LAN communication unit and a memory, to perform wireless LAN communication via the wireless LAN adapter, said communication method comprising: a registration step of causing an external computer apparatus to register Service Set ID and printer ID of a target printer to use the wireless LAN adapter, into the memory of the wireless LAN adapter, in a case that the external computer apparatus is connected to the wireless LAN adapter, wherein the Service Set ID defines wireless LAN communication of the target printer via the wireless LAN adapter; a first reading step of causing the printing apparatus to read the printer ID from the memory of the wireless LAN adapter ... a notification step of notifying a user of an error ... a second reading step; ... a setting step; ... and a communication step of causing the wireless communication unit of the wireless LAN adapter in which the Service Set ID is set in said setting step, to perform the wireless LAN communication, using the Service Set ID set in said setting step.

1116025 v1

Amended claim 1 is directed to a communication method for allowing a printing apparatus connected to a wireless LAN adapter having a wireless LAN communication unit and a memory, to perform wireless LAN communication via the wireless LAN adapter. Amended claim 13 is directed to a printing apparatus. Amended claim 17 is directed to a control method of a printing apparatus.

In each independent claim, an external computer apparatus registers into the memory of a wireless LAN adapter, the Service Set ID and printer ID of a target printer to use the wireless LAN adapter to perform wireless communication.

Upon connecting the wireless LAN adapter in which the printer ID has been registered to the printing apparatus, the printing apparatus reads the printer ID from the memory of the wireless LAN adapter. Then, the printing apparatus compares the read printer ID of the target printer with printer ID of the printing apparatus preset in the apparatus. If the read printer ID of the target printer does not match the read printer ID of the printing apparatus, the printing apparatus notifies a user of an error without reading the Service Set ID from the wireless LAN adapter. On the other hand, if the read printer ID of the target printer matches the printer ID of the printing apparatus, the printing apparatus reads the Service Set ID from the memory of the wireless LAN adapter, and sets the read Service Set ID in the wireless LAN communication unit of the same wireless LAN adapter connected to the printing apparatus. Consequently, the printing apparatus can perform the wireless LAN communication using the Service Set ID set in the wireless LAN communication unit of the wireless LAN adapter.

Therefore, the claimed subject matter facilitates the wireless communication function even in a printing apparatus with limited input means. Further, the wireless LAN adapter can be used for various printers, thus the wireless LAN communication is achieved without equipping any special wireless LAN unit in the printers.

Applicants submit that none of the cited references, taken alone or in combination, teach disclose or suggest these aspects of the amended claimed subject matter.

1116025 v1

Noda describes that a first computer sets wireless communication parameters into IC card. Upon closing proximity the IC card to a second computer, the second computer reads the wireless communication parameters from the IC card and sets the wireless communication parameters into a wireless communication unit attached to the second computer. Noda further describes that the IC card stores a password to connect to a network, and a computer reads the password to connect the network. [See Noda ¶¶80-85].

Unlike Applicants' claim 1, Noda merely discloses a system for transferring the wireless communication parameters stored in one computer to a second computer through the use of an IC card and an IC card contactless communication unit. [See Noda ¶¶80-85]. The parameters are then read by a second computer and then used by the second computer's attached wireless communication unit to perform the wireless LAN communication with the first computer. Accordingly, the IC card of Noda does not perform the wireless communication which is instead performed by the wireless communication unit 20-2. Thus, Noda fails to disclose or suggest any idea of setting Service Set ID for performing a wireless communication into a wireless LAN adapter and then causing the wireless communication unit of the wireless LAN adapter to perform the wireless LAN communication. Therefore, Applicants submit that Noda does not disclose the "registration" and "communication" steps of amended claim 1.

Sato discloses a communication device that reads communication parameters from an IC card to set up the communication parameters to the communication device. The communication parameters may include a password for connecting other device.

However, similar to Noda, Sato also fails to disclose or suggest any idea of setting the Service Set ID for performing a wireless communication into a wireless LAN adapter, as recited in the "registration" and "communication" steps of amended claim 1. Noda and Sato merely disclose a system for using an IC card to transfer and set the parameters of a wireless communication into a wireless communication unit. These references do not use the IC card to perform the wireless communication.

1116025 v1

Bartolome discloses a technique for connecting a wireless communication adapter with a computer to establish a wireless communication. Applicant's also submit that Bartolome does not teach, disclose or suggest setting Service Set ID for performing a wireless communication into a wireless LAN adapter.

Moreover, Noda, Bartolome and Sato fail to disclose or suggest a scheme for limiting printers which use the wireless LAN adapter that can be used for various printers.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants submit that amended independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from Noda, taken either alone or in combination with Bartolome and/or Sato. Furthermore, Applicants submit that claims 13 and 17, are also patentably distinct from any of the cited references, taken either alone or combination, for at least similar reasons. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of these grounds of rejection.

Applicants have chosen in the interest of expediting prosecution of this patent application to distinguish the cited documents from the pending claims as set forth above. These statements should not be regarded in any way as admissions that the cited documents are, in fact, prior art. Finally, Applicants have not specifically addressed the rejections of the dependent claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims, from which they depend, are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Accordingly, the dependent claims also are in condition for allowance. Applicants, however, reserve the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims in the future as appropriate.

CONCLUSION

For the above-stated reasons, this application is respectfully asserted to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable examination on the merits is requested. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF THIS AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 AND 1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-4500, ORDER NO. 1232-5208.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: March 10, 2008   By: _Steven F. Meyer_

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